Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

SHOUT
SHARE
IT

eserve
1
Ent 86P
(Rev)

COLORADO POTATO BEETLE

a, Adult beetle; *b*, eggs; *c*, larvae (or slugs); *d*, pupa (or resting stage). (*a*, *c*, and *d* about natural size; *b* about twice natural size.)

(See other side for life history and control)

Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine
United States Department of Agriculture

Picture Sheet No. 3

COLORADO POTATO BEETLE

(*Leptinotarsa decemlineata* Say)

Life History

The eggs of the Colorado potato beetle are laid on the under side of the leaves. These eggs hatch in from 4 to 9 days. The resulting larvae (or slugs) feed on the plant. The larva grows rapidly, passing through four stages, or instars, similar in appearance except that each stage is larger than the preceding one. It becomes full grown in 10 days to 3 weeks after hatching from the egg. The full-grown larva then burrows into the ground and changes to a pupa, or resting stage. After 5 to 10 days the adult beetle emerges from the pupa, crawls up out of the ground, and, after feeding on the plants for a few days, may lay eggs for another brood of larvae.

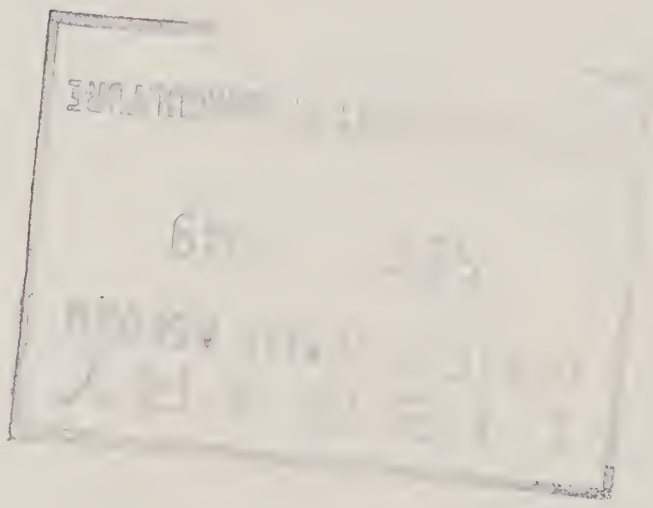
Control

Dust the foliage thoroughly with a 3-percent DDT dust.

Sprays are also effective if applied with a good sprayer throwing a fine mist. Use 2 level tablespoonfuls of 50-percent DDT wettable powder or 2 level teaspoonfuls of 25-percent DDT emulsion concentrate per gallon of water. To make 100 gallons of spray use either 3 pounds of the 50-percent wettable powder or 2 pounds of the 25-percent DDT emulsion concentrate. If sprays are to be used for disease control, either of these DDT preparations may be added to the fungicidal spray rather than to water, and both materials applied with one operation.

Begin spraying or dusting when the beetles first appear. Spray or dust for the slugs when eggs are hatching, and repeat the treatment as often as necessary.

Caution.—Insecticides are poisonous and should be handled with care. Store in a dry place where children and animals will not have access to them.



Revised April 1949

U. S. Government Printing Office

For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C. Price 5 cents

832648°—49